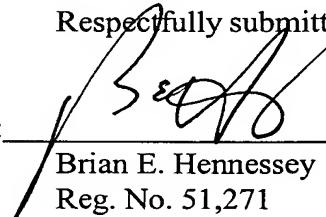


**REMARKS**

Without prejudice, this Preliminary Amendment cancels claims 1-26 and adds new claims 27-47 to the application. Therefore, claims 27-47 are now pending.

Applicant asserts that the subject matter of the present application is new, non-obvious, and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Dated: 3/15/04

Respectfully submitted,  
By:   
Brian E. Hennessey  
Reg. No. 51,271

KENYON & KENYON  
One Broadway  
New York, New York 10004  
(212) 425-7200

**CUSTOMER NO. 26646**